

State of Washington

Activity Summary By Agency

Agency: Department of Revenue**2001-03 Biennium Estimated Expenditures**

<u>General Fund</u>				<u>Annual</u>
<u>State</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Totals</u>		<u>FTEs</u>
\$16,489,138	\$161,000	\$16,650,138		58.4

Activity / Function: Internal Services**Statewide Category:** Government Administration and Support

Purpose: Activities funded in this category include the cost of overall management of the agency, internal audit, accounting, budget, cash management, facilities management, purchasing, personnel, employee training, and legal services provided by the Attorney General's Office. A significant portion of the costs in this category represent the legal costs associated with the defense of the state's tax system.

Other Funds: Timber Tax Distribution Account

Activity / Function: Property Tax Administration	\$10,977,800	\$0	\$10,977,800	56.8
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Statewide Category: Revenue and Collections

Purpose: The Department has a statutory obligation to ensure uniformity within the State's property tax system and oversees the administration of property taxes at both the state and local level. The Department also determines the state school levy, conducts complex appraisals on commercial, industrial, and special use properties, administers property tax exemptions and deferral programs, and provides guidance, training, and assistance on property tax issues to county officials.

Activity / Function: State/Local Revenue Collection and Distribution	\$73,013,483	\$5,674,921	\$78,688,404	528.7
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Statewide Category: Revenue and Collections

Purpose: The Department of Revenue is responsible for the fair, efficient, and uniform administration of state tax laws. Primary activities include taxpayer registration, tax return processing collection activities, accounting for and distributing state and local tax revenues, and promotion of voluntary compliance through taxpayer education, information and assistance. These activities are conducted from offices throughout the state and are supported by a statewide computer network.

Other Funds: Timber Tax Distribution Account; Waste Reduction, Recycling and Litter Control Account; State Toxics Control Account; Oil Spill Administration Account

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<u>General Fund</u>			<u>Annual</u>
<u>State</u>	<u>Other</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>FTEs</u>
\$37,568,155	\$316,400	\$37,884,555	242.5

Activity / Function: Tax Auditing**Statewide Category:** Revenue and Collections

Purpose: The Department's audit function is carried out across Washington State and throughout the United States. Auditors are given one of three assignments: permanent in-state locations, permanently assigned out-of-state locations, or short-term out-of-state tours. The auditors review the records of registered businesses for the proper reporting and payment of taxes. Among others, taxes routinely audited for include sales and use, business and occupation, and public utility taxes.

Other Funds: Timber Tax Distribution Account; Waste Reduction, Recycling and Litter Control Account; State Toxics Control Account; Oil Spill Administration Account

Activity / Function: Tax Policy Research, Analysis, and Interpretation	\$10,020,200	\$0	\$10,020,200	61.8
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Statewide Category: Government Administration and Support

Purpose: Tax policy activities involve coordinating interdepartmental services and providing information and guidance to the public, employees, and all levels of government. Specific functions include: preparation of fiscal notes, analysis and drafting of legislation, rule revisions and drafting, forecasting non-general fund revenues, analysis of proposed changes to tax statutes, and the analysis of tax law changes on small business. The Department also hears taxpayer appeals and issues written determinations, renders formal and informal tax law interpretations, and mediates and negotiates settlements.

Activity / Function: Unclaimed Property Management	\$0	\$4,242,000	\$4,242,000	20.1
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Statewide Category: Special Government Services

Purpose: The Department administers the provisions of the State Uniform Unclaimed Property Act. The Department receives the transfer of abandoned property to the state and tries to locate the owners through advertising, and providing public access to abandoned property information. The Department's role is to act in the interest of the property owners and return the abandoned property to the rightful owners whenever possible. Examples of abandoned property include: utility deposits, insurance policies, safety deposit box contents, dividends, and savings accounts.

Other Funds: Unclaimed Personal Property Account - Nonappropriated

Total Reported:	6	TOTALS	\$148,068,776	\$10,394,321	\$158,463,097	968.3
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